

Come Dancing With The Kinks

The Best Of
The Kinks
1977-1986

COMPACT
disc
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DIGITAL
STEREO

COME DANCING WITH THE KINKS
THE BEST OF THE KINKS 1977-1986

A2CD 8428

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ARISTA

**COME DANCING WITH THE KINKS
THE BEST OF THE KINKS 1977-1986**

- Track 1** You Really Got Me (live)
- Track 2** Destroyer
- Track 3** (Wish I Could Fly Like)
Superman
- Track 4** Juke Box Music
- Track 5** A Rock 'N' Roll Fantasy
- Track 6** Come Dancing
- Track 7** Do It Again*
- Track 8** Better Things
- Track 9** Lola (live)
- Track 10** Low Budget
- Track 11** Long Distance†
- Track 12** Heart Of Gold
- Track 13** Don't Forget To Dance
- Track 14** Living On A Thin Line*
- Track 15** Father Christmas‡
- Track 16** Celluloid Heroes (live)

†Previously released only on the
State Of Confusion cassette

‡Never released on LP

All songs produced by Ray Davies
***Associate Producer: Dave Davies**
All songs written by Ray Davies
(Davray Music, Ltd./PRS)
Except "Living On A Thin Line"
written by Dave Davies
(Dabe Music, Ltd./PRS)

The original two-record set of the
same title has been edited for
release on this single deluxe-play
Compact Disc.

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SLEEPWALKER (1977)*"Juke Box Music"*

Ray Davies-Vocals, Guitar & Keyboards
 Dave Davies-Lead Guitar & Backing Vocals
 Mick Avory-Drums
 John Dalton-Bass
 John Gosling-Keyboards

MISFITS (1978)*"A Rock 'N' Roll Fantasy"*

Ray Davies-Lead Vocals, Guitar, Piano & Synthesizer
 Dave Davies-Lead Guitar & Backing Vocals
 Mick Avory-Drums
 Andy Pyle-Bass
 John Gosling-Keyboards
 Nick Trevisik-Drums on "A Rock 'N' Roll Fantasy"
 Ron Lawrence-Bass on "A Rock 'N' Roll Fantasy"

LOW BUDGET (1979)*"(Wish I Could Fly Like) Superman," "Low Budget"*

Ray Davies-Lead Vocals, Rhythm Guitar & Keyboards
 Dave Davies-Lead Guitar & Backing Vocals
 Mick Avory-Drums
 Jim Rodford-Bass
 Nick Newell-Sax

ONE FOR THE ROAD (1980)*"You Really Got Me," "Lola," "Celluloid Heroes"*

Ray Davies-Lead Vocals & Guitar
 Dave Davies-Lead Guitar & Backing Vocals
 Mick Avory-Drums
 Jim Rodford-Bass
 Ian Gibbons-Keyboards
 Nick Newell-Additional Keyboards

GIVE THE PEOPLE WHAT THEY WANT (1981)*"Destroyer," "Better Things"*

Ray Davies-Lead Vocals, Rhythm Guitar,
 Synthesizer & Piano
 Dave Davies-Lead Guitar & Backing Vocals
 Mick Avory-Drums
 Jim Rodford-Bass
 Ian Gibbons-Keyboards

STATE OF CONFUSION (1983)*"Come Dancing," "Don't Forget To Dance," "Heart of Gold," "Long Distance"*

Ray Davies-Lead Vocals, Rhythm Guitar,
 Synthesizer & Piano
 Dave Davies-Lead Guitar & Backing Vocals
 Mick Avory-Drums
 Jim Rodford-Bass
 Ian Gibbons-Keyboards

WORD OF MOUTH (1984)*"Do It Again," "Living On A Thin Line"*

Ray Davies-Lead Vocals, Keyboards, Harmonica & Guitar
 Dave Davies-Lead Guitar & Backing Vocals
 Lead Vocal on "Living On A Thin Line"
 Jim Rodford-Bass
 Ian Gibbons-Keyboards
 Bob Henrit-Drums on "Do It Again" and "Living On A Thin Line"

*"And when they ask me how you dance**I'll say that you dance real close"*—*"Don't Forget To Dance,"* 1982

It has been, to understate, an unstable affair, initial passion followed by utter indifference, moments of flirtation, more indifference, rekindled passion. Like a lovely girl one can't help hovering about, but who proves alternately available and elusive, The Kinks have slipped in and out of the public's embrace. To continue the metaphor momentarily, the period represented on these four side of Kinks music was, at least as far as band-audience relationships go, a grand consummation. One could even call the album, in the tradition, Konsummate Kinks. Come Dancing With The Kinks is, in any case, singularly appropriate. Everybody into the ballroom, and let's have a hand for the boys on the bandstand.

In the years covered by this compilation, Our Heroes found themselves, to the delighted surprise of many, crossing the breadth and depth of the United States of America, handily filling basketball arenas with members of the ever-expanding Loyal Order of Kinkphiles, while simultaneously selling cartloads of records. The perennial *bande à part* became a part of the rock mainstream. Shocking as it is to contemplate, the ranks of Kinks fans were swelled with youngsters who were learning the alphabet when "Waterloo Sunset" was bestowed on the world, who identify "You Really Got Me" with David Lee Roth. That is just how it is, and those of us who cherish our monophonic copies of Face To Face have to accept it, albeit with mixed emotions about the enormity of the Kinks' success.

*"They say that even in your day**Somehow you never could quite fit in"*—*"Misfits,"* 1977

How the critics of 1996 will rate The Kinks' music of what will then be called "The Arista Years" is a matter of pure conjecture. From this proximity it can be said with only partial partiality that among the sixteen "new" songs on Come Dancing With... are some of the most charming, incisive, brittle and boisterous numbers ever to roll from this band. Liner notes are expected to contain claims of this nature, but in the case of such compositions as "Come Dancing," "Don't Forget To Dance," "Better Things," "A Rock 'N' Roll Fantasy," "Long Distance," "Juke Box Music," "Living On A Thin Line," and "Heart Of Gold," the obligatory praise is most justified.

Maybe, contrary to the statement made only a paragraph ago, 1977-1985 will go down in the annals of Kinkphilia as "The American Years." From the start of the band's association with Arista, the band reached out to the U.S.A. Over in Britain, where punk was rearing its nasty head, The Kinks were consigned to oldhatdom, but meanwhile, back in the States, rock fans were finding The Kinks' renewed vigor positively exhilarating. At the beginning of the band's Arista tenure, with everyone in agreement that honest-to-goodness songs should be on the agenda rather than the conceptual extravaganzas of the RCA epoch, Ray Davies responded with a new dedication to popcraft. The best songs on Sleepwalker (1977) and Misfits (1978) questioned the value of the very activity that Davies and The Kinks had been engaging in for (then) almost a decade and a half: making rock and roll.

In Sleepwalker's "Juke Box Music" he writes of a lady who plays her fave records all day, blotting all else out: "She sings along with the saddest songs/And she believes the stores are real/She lets the music dictate the way that she feels." It's only juke box music, Ray says, and you "shouldn't take it to heart." But when Dave Davies, in that strangled whine of his, chimes in on the chorus, there's nothing "only" about it. Perhaps because of Ray's ambivalence about rock and its role, this is one of the most

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All songs produced by Ray
Davies
*Associate Producer: Dave
Davies

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|--|----------------------------------|
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| Track 2 DESTROYER | Track 10 LOW BUDGET |
| Track 3 (WISH I COULD FLY LIKE) SUPERMAN | Track 11 LONG DISTANCE |
| Track 4 JUKE BOX MUSIC | Track 12 HEART OF GOLD |
| Track 5 A ROCK 'N' ROLL FANTASY | Track 13 DON'T FORGET TO DANCE |
| Track 6 COME DANCING | Track 14 LIVING ON A THIN LINE* |
| Track 7 DO IT AGAIN* | Track 15 FATHER CHRISTMAS |
| Track 8 BETTER THINGS | Track 16 CELLULOID HEROES (live) |

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